Supply of 30 ALHs to Chile

3092. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has offered to supply 30 Advanced Light Helicopters to Chile valued at Rs. 400 crores;

(b) whether Indian ALH Dhruv is already in operation with Nepal Army for the last two years; and

(c) whether India has drawn a plan to phase out foreign made helicopters now operating in defence wings and substitute the same with our own, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been trial evaluated by the Chilean authorities.

(b) HAL has supplied two ALH to the Royal Nepalese Army in 2004.

(c) No, Sir.

Fresh tenders for 155 mm Howitzer guns

3093. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to invite fresh tenders for the purchase of 155 mm high-caliber Howtizer guns;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the order is likely to be placed for procurement of guns?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Government have decided to ascertain the details of 155 mm/52 Caliber wheeled Self-Propelled (SP) Guns available in global market. Request for Information (RFI) has therefore been issued for the same. No definite time-frame has been fixed for the procurement.